

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE ZFF

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USNATO

DIRNSA WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSAFE

CINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMSIXTHFLEET

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 1989

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MILITARY ADEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MARR, PFOR, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH BASE NEGOTIATIONS: ARTICLE XX, ASSISTANCE

REF: A. ANKARA 1937 DTG 111515Z MAR 76, B. STATE 59066

DTG 110043Z MAR 76, C. STATE 59631 DTG 112002Z

MAR 76, D. ANKARA 1595 DTG 010935Z MAR 76, E. STATE 59853

DTG 112339Z MAR 76

1. IN PRIVATE MEETING WITH MSA COUNSELOR ON MARCH 12,
TURKISH WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN ASULA CONFIRMED THAT
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NEGATIVE GOT RESPONSE GIVEN BY MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG IN

MARCH 11 MEETING (REF A) TO U.S. REQUEST FOR NOTE AMPLIFYING PHRASE "WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF RELATED AGREEMENTS" IN PARA 1 ARTICLE XX APPLIED NOT ONLY TO LISTING RELATED AGREEMENTS BUT ALSO TO LAST PARAGRAPH OF DRAFT NOTE RE SALES CONTRACTS. ASULA EXPLAINED THAT GOT WAS OBVIOUSLY OBLIGED TO AGREE TO STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALES CONTRACTS IF IT MADE CASH OR SALES PURCHASES BUT SO STATING IN A DIPLOMATIC NOTE WAS REGARDED BY GOT AS DEMEANING AND THEREFORE POLITICALLY UNACCEPTABLE. ASULA DENIED THAT THERE WOULD BE ANY GROUNDS FOR TURKS TO CLAIM THAT USG WAS VIOLATING AGREEMENT WHEN IT POSED IN SALES CONTRACTS CONDITIONS NOT AGREED UPON ELSEWHERE. (COMMENT: THIS IS QUITE OBVIOUSLY HARD CORE ISSUE. SINCE WE HAVE MEAGER PROSPECTS FOR HANDLING IT BEFORE WASHINGTON VISIT, WE WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON'S COMMENTS ON HOW IT MIGHT BE HANDLED TO JOINT TEXT. SHOULD WE, FOR EXAMPLE, LEAVE PARAGRAPH ONE LANGUAGE AS NOW AGREED AND PLACE IN U.SM BRACKETS A NOTE THAT U.S. REQUIRES DIPLOMATIC NOTE IDENTIFYING "RELATED AGREEMENTS"?)

2. GARDNER ARGUED THAT, SINCE U.S. COULD NOT PROVIDE LANGUAGE ON INTEREST RATES WHICH WOULD MEET GOT POLITICAL REQUIREMENTS AND SINCE THESE RATES WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE DETERMINED BY THE AGREEMENT, REFERENCE TO THEM IN PARAGRAPH TWO OF ARTICLE XX SHOULD BE DELETED. ASULA STATED THAT GOT HAD FIRM POLITICAL REQUIREMENT FOR SOME INDICATION THAT IT WOULD GET "MOST FAVORED NATION TREATMENT." GARDNER THEN PROPOSED LANGUAGE TRANSMITTED REF C AND, UPON ASULA'S QUERY, STATE USG WAS UNABLE TO PURSUE FURTHER FORMULA HE HAD PROPOSED (REF D). ASULA STATED THAT LATEST PROPOSAL WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN PRESENT FORM BUT MIGHT BE MADE SO IF "CONSISTENT WITH UNITED STATES LAW" BE OMITTED, "COMPARABLE" CHANGED TO READ "EQUAL" AND "NATO" INSERTED BEFORE "COUNTRIES." AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION, ASULA AGREED TO DROP REQUEST FOR WORD "EQUAL" BUT INSISTED THAT OTHER CHANGES WERE MINIMUM REQUIRED TO OBTAIN HIS AUTHORITIES' APPROVAL. TEST AS AMENDED BY ASULA WOULD READ:

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BEGIN TEXT:
CREDITS AND GUARANTEED LOANS HEREIN PROVIDED FOR SHALL BE AT INTEREST RATES COMPARABLE TO THE RATES OFFERED TO OTHER NATO COUNTRIES FOR SIMILAR FMS CREDITS AND GUARANTEED LOANS.

END TEXT.

(COMMENT: WASHINGTON'S COMMENT URGENTLY REQUESTED.)

3. MOVING ON TO ARTICLE XX PARAGRAPH 3, GARDNER CONVINCED ASULA THAT U.S. PHRASE "SUCH PROGRAM DOES NOT ENTER INTO FORCE" WAS PREFERABLE TO GOT "SUCH PROGRAM CANNOT BE IMPLEMENTED" AND ASULA AGREED TO MOVE TO U.S. LANGUAGE. ASULA ALSO UNDERSTOOD THE CONFLICT CAUSED BY REFERENCE TO ARTICLE XXII, PARAGRAPH 1 AND INDICATED HE WOULD DEVELOP NEW LANGUAGE FOR ARTICLE XXII (1) TO REMOVE THE CONFLICT. HE RESISTED CHANGING PARA 3, ARTICLE XX TO CONFORM WITH THAT OF ARTICLE XXII.

(COMMENT: ANY NEW GOT LANGUAGE FOR ARTICLE XXII, PARAGRAPH 1 WILL BE WITHIN THE ALREADY BRACKETED TURKISH LANGUAGE.)

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